

## REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

In the Official Action, the Examiner rejects claims 9-12 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite because the limitation “a certain internal circuit” contains insufficient antecedent basis in the claims. Claims 9-12 have been amended to recite “*an* internal circuit”. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the §112, second paragraph, rejection of claims 9-12.

The Examiner further rejects claims 1, 13 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being allegedly anticipated by Japanese Publication No. 08-163038 to Shinji et al. (hereinafter “Shinji”). Claims 2, 9 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Shinji. Claims 3 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Shinji in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,999,799 to Hu et al. (hereinafter “Hu”). Claims 4 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Shinji in view of Japanese Publication No. 63-189924 to Kenji (hereinafter “Kenji”). Claims 5 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Shinji in view of Hu in further view of Kenji. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Shinji in view of Japanese Publication No. 02-235499 to Yoshikazu (hereinafter “Yoshikazu”). Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Shinji in view of Kenji and further in view of Yoshikazu. Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Shinji in view of Hu in further view of Kenji in further view of Yoshikazu.

Regarding the §102(b) rejection of independent claim 1, the Examiner states that Shinji teaches a wireless keyboard with a transmitting means for transmitting an input signal by

operation of keys to an information processing device, and receiving means for receiving a reception level of the input signal from the information processing device as recited in claim 1. The Examiner further alleges that Shinji teaches a predetermined transmission level of the input signal being switched dependent on a combination of the transmission level of the input signal and the reception level in the receiving means.

The present invention teaches a wireless keyboard that solves the problem experienced by wireless keyboards that consume a high amount of electricity because they transmit the radio signal from the wireless keyboard at a fixed level (usually the maximum level) at all times. This is accomplished by switching a predetermined transmission level of an input signal, depending on the transmission level of the input signal, and on the reception level in the receiving means, resulting in less consumption of electricity (as shown in Fig. 4, and as described on page 12, line 5 – page 13, line 15).

Shinji fails to teach a predetermined transmission level that is switched, depending on a combination of the transmission level and the reception level of the input signal, as recited in claim 1. Therefore, the §102(b) rejection of claim 1 is improper as the reference fails to teach the elements of claim 1.

Regarding the §102(b) rejection of independent claim 13, the Examiner states that Shinji teaches a receiving portion for receiving a reception level of an input signal transmitted from a wireless keyboard, a reception level detecting portion for detecting and outputting the reception level upon receiving the input signal, and a transmitting portion for transmitting the reception level outputted from the reception level detecting portion to the wireless keyboard.

In response, claim 13 has been amended to clarify its distinguishing features. Specifically, claim 13 has been amended to include the limitation of switching the transmission

level of the input signal transmitted from the wireless keyboard according to the reception level, similar to claim 1. Support for the amendment is found throughout the specification; specifically, in Fig. 4, and on page 12, line 5 – page 13, line 15. Therefore, no new matter has been added by way of the amendment to claim 13.

As Shinji fails to teach the element of independent claims 1, 13 and dependent claim 14, Applicants respectfully submit that the §102(b) rejection of claims 1, 13 and 14 is improper. Anticipation requires the presence in a single prior art reference, disclosure of each and every element of the claimed invention, arranged as in the claim. Lindeman Maschinenfabrik GMBH v. American Hoist and Derrick Company, 730 F.2d 1452, 1458; 221 U.S.P.Q. 481, 485 (Fed. Cir. 1984). As Shinji fails to disclose the elements of the claims, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the §102(b) rejection of claims 1, 13 and 14.

Regarding the §103(a) rejection of independent claim 2, the Examiner states that Shinji teaches the features of the claim except that Shinji fails to teach a first transmission level setting means for storing the transmission level of the input signal transmitted from the transmitting means, and setting a new transmission level with reference to a predetermined transmission level setting table in accordance with a combination of the transmission level and the reception level upon receiving the reception level from the receiving means. However, the Examiner states that Shinji discloses being able to control and change the amount of drive current to a variety of values, and as such, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate such a feature.

However, Shinji discloses a current control means that controls a drive current fed to a light-emitting element. Therefore, when 2-way communication by the wireless optical signal is not established consecutively for a specific number of times, the drive current supplied to the

light-emitting element is sequentially changed (Shinji Abstract). This feature appears to let the user know if 2-way communication is established or not through the use of a light-emitting element, and controlling the drive current accordingly.

The present invention, as recited in claim 2, provides a transmission level switching means for receiving means for receiving a new transmission level and switching the transmission level accordingly. Such a feature provides for less electricity being consumed by switching the transmission level of the input signal. Shinji merely activates a light-emitting element if 2-way communication is not established; Shinji does not teach switching the transmission level of the input signal. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the §103(a) rejection of claim 2 be withdrawn.

Regarding the §103(a) rejection of independent claim 3, the Examiner states that Shinji teaches the features of the claim except that Shinji fails to teach the second transmission level setting means for storing the transmission level of the input signal and detecting a distance information between the wireless keyboard and the information processing device. However, the Examiner states that Hu discloses a wireless device that stores distance information and alerts a user that the user is currently out of range and cannot use the wireless device; therefore, it would have been obvious to incorporate this feature to one of ordinary skill in the art.

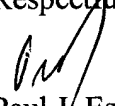
However, Hu discloses that such a device is inoperable after a certain distance is attained from the remote control device and the information processing device. The present invention, as recited in claim 3, provides for a wireless keyboard with a switching means for switching the transmission level of an input signal depending on the distance between the wireless keyboard and the information processing device. The second transmission level setting means detects the distance between the wireless keyboard and the information processing device, and switches the

transmission level to a new transmission level accordingly. As discussed above, Shinji or Hu does not teach such a feature, individually or in combination; therefore, the §103(a) rejection of independent claim 3 is improper. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the §103(a) rejection of claim 3 be withdrawn.

Turning to the §103(a) rejections of dependent claims 4-12 and 15, it must be noted that the Examiner relies on Shinji, in combination with Hu and/or other references, to support the asserted rejections. As set out above, Shinji does not disclose all the elements of the independent claims. Accordingly, since dependent claims 4-12 and 15 recite additional unique elements and/or limitations, claims 4-12 and 15 remain patentable over the asserted combination since the cited additional references do not supply the elements missing from Shinji or Hu with respect to the independent claims. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the §103(a) rejection of claims 4-12 and 15 be withdrawn, and respectfully requested that claims 1-15 be allowed.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that this application be allowed and a Notice of Allowance issued. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference with Applicants' attorney would be advantageous to the disposition of this case, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



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